

Summary of DAT Conference Call 11/13/2007

Participants: EChappell(DWR), JSpeegle(FWS),
RGartz(DFG), BOppenheim(NOAA),
BPoytress(FWS), LTran(DWR),
RShahcheraghi(DWR), JWhite(DFG), LBartoo(FWS),
AChu(DWR), JSnow(WWD), LShih(CCWD),
EGleason(DFG), LKiteck(BR), BFujimura(DFG),
CKao(SCVWA), TBoardman(SLDMWA),
KTotzke(KCWA), FBrewster(SCVWA)

Conclusions and Recommendation

DFG provided the official 2007 winter-run Chinook escapement estimate to NOAA. Based on results from the carcass survey, DFG estimated an in-river escapement of 2,488. Of those, 1,542 were females. The RBDD escapement estimate is 6,144, of which 1,775 were female. The preliminary estimate of the number of juvenile entering the delta based on the JPE is approximately 1.1 million.

The spring-run escapement to Mill Creek is 920, 644 to Deer Creek, and 4,943 to Butte Creek.

The passage of juvenile winter-run Chinook continues to decrease at RBDD. Spring yearlings were caught in the Mill Creek screw trap but no older juvenile Chinook were caught in the Delta.

Final copies of the DAT notes are now available on the CALFED Operations website at
<http://www.woco.water.ca.gov/calfedops/datsummaries.html>.

No operational changes were recommended at this time.

Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 11/20/2007, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. 916/657-4111.

Chinook Monitoring

Upper Sacramento River

Winter-run Escapement - DFG provided the official 2007 winter-run Chinook escapement estimate to NOAA. Based on results from the carcass survey, DFG estimated an in-river escapement of 2,488. Of those, 1,542 were females. This is lower than the escapement of 7,869 in 2004. The

RBDD escapement estimate is 6,144, of which 1,775 were female. The RBDD estimate only counts a small portion of the run and can be off by up to 200%. Bruce Oppenheim (NOAA) gave a preliminary estimate of the number of juvenile entering the delta based on the JPE of approximately 1.1 million. The take level at the Delta Fish Facilities is 2% of the number of juveniles entering the delta or approximately 11,756 for 2007.

Spring-run Escapement – DFG estimated an escapement to Mill Creek of 920 in 2007. The Deer Creek escapement is 644 and the Butte Creek escapement is 4943. The escapement to all three tributaries is lower than the escapement three years earlier.

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – For the last week winter-run passage decreased averaging 2,600 per day. So far passage this season is 1.34 million.

Late fall Chinook passage averaged 142 per day. Spring Chinook passage was approximately 225 per day and steelhead passage decreased to approximately 35 per day. Flows at Bend Bridge are stable around 6,500cfs.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php.

Mill Creek – Last week the catch increased to 105 yearling spring-run and 5 steelhead. The recent precipitation event only increased flows about 20cfs.

Deer Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase.

Butte Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase. They will start in the in-river tagging program on January 1st.

GCID – The catch of older juvenile Chinook continues to range from about 3 to 82 per day. DFG also caught one fry Chinook.

Knights Landing – No update.

Delta Monitoring

In the last week, FWS did not catch any Chinook or delta smelt.

Sacramento Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 30 samples. No species of interest.

Lower Sacramento River seine – 1 sample day, 4 samples. No species of interest.

Sacramento Area seine – 3 sample days, 20 samples. No species of interest.

North Delta seine - 1 sample day, 7 samples. No species of interest.

Central Delta seine - 1 sample day, 7 samples. No species of interest.

South Delta seine - 1 sample day, 7 samples. No species of interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 30 samples. No species of interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 1 sample day, 6 samples. No species of interest.

Chippis Island Midwater Trawl - 3 sample days, 39 samples. FWS caught two splittail but no other species of interest.

Bay seine - 1 sample day, 2 samples. No species of interest.

Delta Action 8 – This year the Delta Action 8 experiment will have two release groups. The first release will be in early December with the DCC open, if possible.

Spring Surrogate Releases – The November and December release groups of Coleman Hatchery late-fall Chinook will be combined again this year. The Chinook will be released in late November.

Delta Smelt Monitoring

FMWT – DFG is currently conducting the November survey. So far, DFG has not caught any delta smelt in the

stations between San Pablo Bay and Antioch. DFG is sampling in the San Joaquin River today. The survey ends on November 16th.

DSWG – No update.

Salvage Facilities –

Chinook – None.

Steelhead – No steelhead were salvaged during normal operations. One hatchery steelhead (369mm) was recovered at CVP during a special study.

Delta smelt – None.

Splittail – None.

Longfin smelt - None.

Sturgeon – None.

The DFG Salvage Database is available on the DFG ftp site (<ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>).

Head of Old River and Agricultural Barriers

HORB - DWR started removing the barrier earlier than scheduled, on November 9th. The early breach will help improve water levels in the south delta.

Ag. Barriers – DWR will continue removing both the Old River and Grantline barriers this week. The weir and culverts have been removed from the Old River barrier. The center weir of the Grantline barrier was 75% removed by Friday, November 9th. The Middle River barrier is scheduled to be breached on November 27th. DWR expects all in water work to be completed by November 30th.

Operations

SWP -

CCFB – 2,000cfs.

Oroville - 2,450cfs.
X2 - > 81 km.

E/I - 3-day ~35%
San Luis - ~475taf. SWP share of San Luis capacity is 1,062 taf.

EWA - As of end of September, the debt for SWP is approximately 44taf and for CVP is approximately 22taf. DWR is still working on the estimate for October.

CVP -

Tracy PP - 2,700cfs.

DCC - open.

Trinity - 300cfs.

Clear Creek - 200cfs.

Keswick – 5,600cfs.

Nimbus – 1,250cfs. The power bypass was implemented on Friday, November 9th to lower water temperatures on the American. So far, the water temperature has dropped 3 degrees. Some spawning has started in the river. The group will meet later this week to discuss whether to continue the power bypass.

Goodwin – 280cfs.

San Luis - 399taf. CVP share of San Luis capacity is 966 taf.

Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 10,521cfs.

Fremont Weir ~ 0.

San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,643cfs.

Delta Outflow ~ 10,000cfs. The 7-day average is 6,239cfs.

Delta Water Quality

The Delta is in balanced conditions. Water quality is okay.

November Water Quality Standards –

Delta Outflow – monthly average \geq 4,500cfs, 7-day average \geq 3,500cfs.

Delta Cross Channel – The gates may be closed for up to 45 days for the protection of Chinook between November 1st and January 31st.

E/I Ratio – 65%

Rio Vista – monthly average $\geq 4,500$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 3,500$ cfs.

Contra Costa Canal – CI ≤ 250 mg/L. In addition, CI ≤ 150 mg/L for 165 days per year. This portion of the standard has been met for the year.

South Delta – 30-day average EC ≤ 1.0 .

Suisun Marsh = Eastern EC ≤ 15.5 mS/cm; Western EC ≤ 16.5 mS/cm.

Erin Chappell

Environmental Scientist

DWR-DES

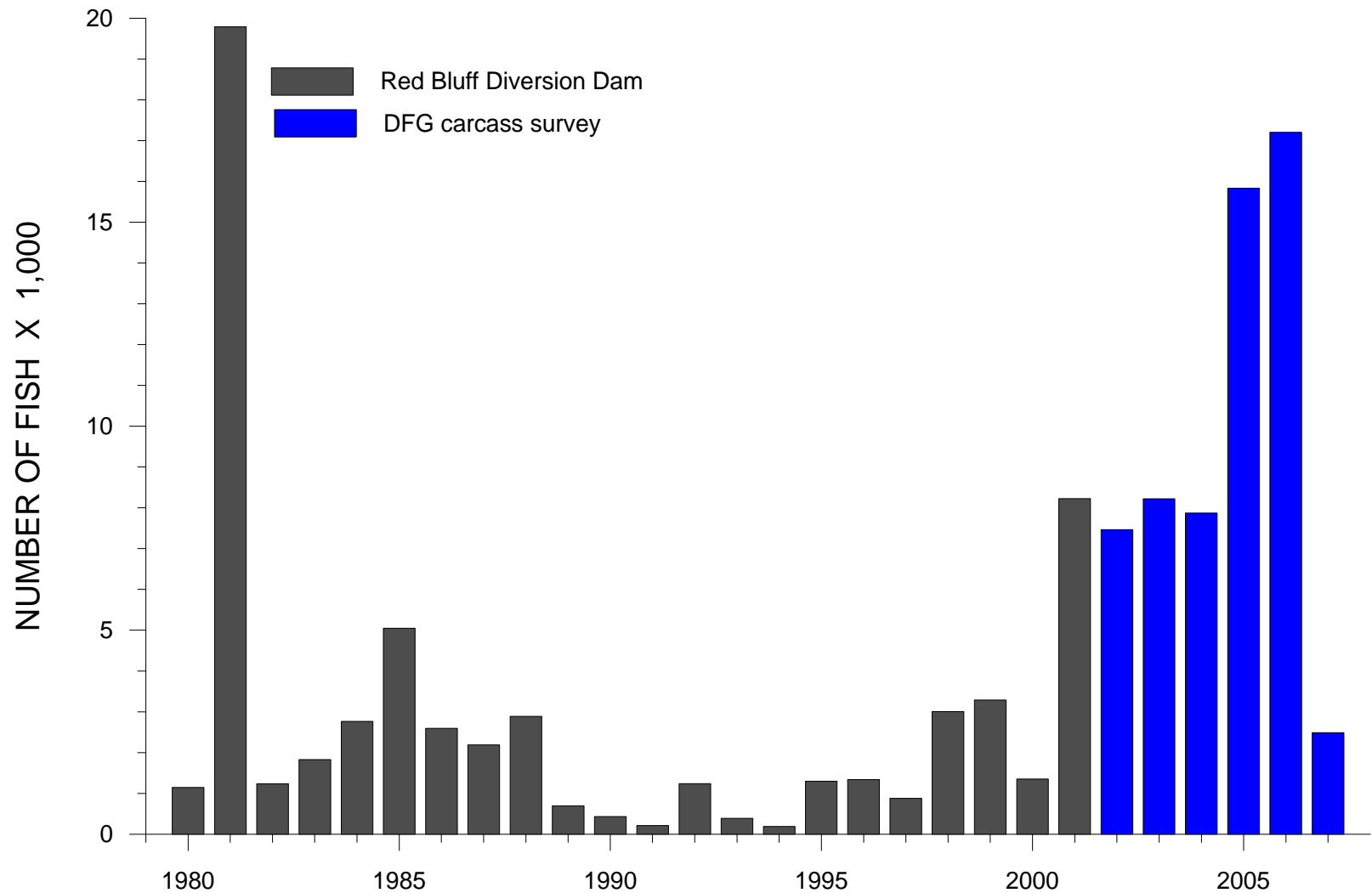
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ANNUAL WINTER-RUN ESCAPEMENT FOR THE UPPER SACRAMENTO
RIVER, RBDD 1980-2001 AND DFG CARCASS SURVEY 2002-2007



ANNUAL SPRING-RUN CHINOOK ESCAPEMENT FOR TRIBUTARIES OF THE SACRAMENTO RIVER, 1955-2007

